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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/823,120

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7590

12/15/2006

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EXAMINER

GOLD, AVI M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/823,120		MONTERO ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Avi Gold		2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to the amendment filed on September 20, 2006.

Claims 1-24 are pending.

#### *Response to Amendment*

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 11-13, 16, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Courts et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,076,108, further in view of Dharmarajan, U.S. Patent No. 7,010,605.

Courts teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a system and method for maintaining states for user sessions with a web system (see abstract).

As to claim 11, Courts teaches a method of a method of maintaining session data in a server system servicing a network, said server system maintaining state data pertaining to sessions, said method comprising the steps of:

(1) storing data for each session in a memory local to a server servicing said session (col. 9, lines 30-35, Courts discloses state information stored as session data in the session cache);

(2) writing a copy of said data for each said session stored in said local memory into a central memory accessible to all servers of said server system at designated times (col. 9, lines 36-52, Courts discloses session data stored in a global session server after the web page is built).

Courts fails to teach the limitation further including the said designated times being a function of a predetermined time interval since a last write to said database of data for said sessions.

However, Dharmarajan teaches a method and apparatus for encoding session data utilized by a server computer (see abstract). Dharmarajan teaches the use of a session timer based on the last transmission sent and that session timer being set to elapse after a predetermined amount of time (col. 13, lines 3-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Courts in view of Dharmarajan to use designated times being a function of a predetermined time interval since a last write to said database of data for said sessions. One would be motivated to do so because it allows for the data to be periodically written to the database (col. 13, lines 42-45).

Regarding claim 12, Courts teaches the method of claim 11 further comprising the step of:

(3) writing in said database a copy of said session data for each said http session at the time the http session is initiated (col. 9, lines 36-52).

Regarding claim 13, Courts teaches the method of claim 11 wherein said server system services the World Wide Web (col. 5, lines 8-13, Courts discloses the global session server providing information to servers in the web system).

Regarding claim 16, Courts teaches the method of claim 11 wherein said time interval is configurable (col. 2, lines 54-61).

3. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Courts and Dharmarajan in view of Prabandham et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,701,438.

Courts teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a system and method for maintaining states for user sessions with a web system (see abstract). Dharmarajan teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a method and apparatus for encoding session data utilized by a server computer (see abstract).

As to claim 14, Courts and Dharmarajan teach the method of claim 11.

Courts and Dharmarajan fail to teach the limitation further including the method of claim 11 wherein said server system comprises a plurality of Java Virtual Machines (JVMS) running on a plurality of servers, and wherein said data for said sessions comprises an HttpSession object of a Java servlet application program interface (API).

However, Prabandham teaches methods and apparatus for providing customizable security and logging modules in a server environment (see abstract). Prabandham teaches the use of Java servlets, dealing with http requests, in Java Virtual Machines on servers (col. 5, lines 42-67; col. 6, lines 1-7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Courts and Dharmarajan in view of Prabandham to use Java Virtual Machines and sessions comprising an HttpSession object of a Java servlet API. One would be motivated to do so because it allows for dynamic content and interactivity.

Regarding claim 17, Courts teaches the method of claim 14 further comprising the step of:

(4) polling said session objects stored in said memories local to said JVMs to determine if they have been updated since the last time step (2) was performed; and wherein, in step (2), only copies of said HttpSession objects that have been updated within said predetermined time interval are written to said database (col. 2, lines 54-61, col. 9, lines 36-52).

4. Claims 1-10, 15, 18, 22, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Courts, Dharmarajan and Prabandham further in view of Ng et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,745,387.

Courts teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a system and method for maintaining states for user sessions with a web system (see abstract).

Prabandham teaches the invention substantially as claimed including methods and apparatus for providing customizable security and logging modules in a server environment (see abstract). Dharmarajan teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a method and apparatus for encoding session data utilized by a server computer (see abstract).

As to claim 15, Courts, Dharmarajan and Prabandham teach the method of claim 14.

Courts, Dharmarajan and Prabandham fail to teach the limitation further including the method of claim 14 wherein said Java servlet APIs are J2EE servlet APIs.

However, Ng teaches a method for using a transaction service synchronization interface to perform container internal state clean up after a transaction has completed (see abstract). Ng teaches the use of J2EE (col. 3, lines 8-28).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Courts, Dharmarajan and Prabandham in view of Ng to use J2EE servlet APIs. One would be motivated to do so because it is a well-known and used platform for constructing Java technology based applications.

Claims 1-9, 18, 22, and 23 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 11-17 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

Regarding claim 10, Courts teaches the server system of claim 9 wherein said time interval is between ten seconds and five minutes (col. 2, lines 54-61).

Regarding claim 19, Courts teaches the server system of claim 18 wherein said second computer program is adapted to write said HttpSession object data to said database after X HttpSession updates in said local memory, where X is an integer greater than or equal to 2 (col. 9, lines 30-52).

Regarding claim 20, Courts teaches the server system of claim 18 wherein said second computer program is adapted to write said HttpSession object data to said database after X http requests in said http sessions, where X is an integer greater than or equal to 2 (col. 9, lines 30-52).

Regarding claim 21, Courts teaches the server system of claim 18 further comprising a third computer program adapted to store in said database a copy of said HttpSession object data for each said http session at the time the http session is created (col. 9, lines 30-52).

Regarding claim 24, Prabandham teaches the server system of claim 18 wherein said writes to said database are performed at the end of a first servlet service method of a corresponding http session received after said designated time (col. 6, lines 8-14, Prabandham discloses an http response logged at the end of a servlet).



### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed September 20, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

6. In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). It is the combination of Courts and Dharmarajan that teaches "writing a copy of said data for each said session stored in said local memory into a central memory accessible to all servers of said server system at designated times, said designated times being a function of a predetermined time interval since a last write to said database of data for said sessions", not each reference individually.

### ***Conclusion***

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,385,642 to Chlan et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,951,643 to Shelton et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,098,093 to Bayeh et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,052,730 to Felciano et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,615,235 to Copeland et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,308,212 to Besaw et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,684,390 to Goff

U.S. Pat. No. 6,584,548 to Bourne et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,178,439 to Feit

U.S. Pat. No. 6,539,494 to Abramson et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Avi Gold whose telephone number is 571-272-4002.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-5:30 (1st Friday Off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

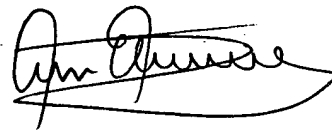
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Avi Gold

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 2157

AMG



**ARIO ETIENNE**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**